

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 DOTE-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

NEA-10 RSR-01 /132 W

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R 091733Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3216

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, IMCO, SENV, PFOR

SUBJECT:, IMCO: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE

POLLUTION: OFFICERS

REF: LONDON 9082

1. MISS M. L. VILLAMIN OF PHILIPPINES WAS MENTIONED IN REFTEL (PARA 3) AS POSSIBLE CONFERENCE PRESIDENT. RUMORS THAT SHE WAS ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED HAVE NOW BEEN CONFIRMED BY PROSPECTIVE BRIDEGROOM, LEIGHTON VAN NORT, AMERICAN MEMBER OF IMCO SECRETARIAT. MISS VILLAMIN HAS SUBMITTED TO FOREIGN MINISTER HER RESIGNATION FROM PHILIPPINE FOREIGN SERVICE BUT SHE EXPECTS SHE WILL BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE IN HER PRESENT POSITION AT LONDON EMBASSY AFTER HER MARRIAGE. IF SO, AND IF SHE IS ON PHILIPPINE DELEGATION TO CONFERENCE, SHE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR SELECTION AS PRESIDENT OR AS CHAIRMAN OF A COMMITTEE.

2. HOWEVER, IN OUR DISCUSSIONS OF PROSPECTS OF MISS VILLAMIN AS POTENTIAL CONFERENCE PRESIDENT ONE OR TWO OF OUR CONTACTS HAD SUGGESTED THAT SHE MAY BE UNACCEPTABLE

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AS PRESIDENT TO MANY CONFERENCE MEMBERS BECAUSE ALLEGEDLY

PHILIPPINES TOO MUCH UNDER INFLUENCE OF UNITED STATES.
HER MARRIAGE TO AN AMERICAN WOULD OF COURSE REINFORCE
THIS VIEW.

3. IN DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO SUPPORT MISS VILLAMIN
(PRESUMABLY MRS. VAN NORT AT THE TIME) FOR CONFERENCE
PRESIDENCY, WASHINGTON AGENCIES WILL WANT TO CONSIDER
FOREGOING. STATUS OF HER ASSIGNMENT TO PHILIPPINE
EMBASSY HERE AT TIME OF CONFERENCE AND WHETHER SHE WILL
BE MEMBER OF PHILIPPINE DELEGATION COULD BE CLARIFIED
THROUGH EMBASSY MANILA.
SOHM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON09172
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730848/aaaabjhg.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LONDON 9082
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <13-Jul-2001 by worrelsw, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <19 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMCO: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE POLLUTION: OFFICERS
TAGS: ETRN, SENV, PFOR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005